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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 9, 2004

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1,315 Families in 25 Counties Will Receive Affordable Housing Through California Department of Housing and Community Development Programs**"Building Better Lives through Proposition 46 Funding"**

SACRAMENTO – The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) Director Lucetta Dunn announced awards of more than \$39.2 million for housing development and homeownership assistance across the state. The awards will help meet California families' urgent affordable housing needs and boost the local economies in 25 counties providing the reality of affordable homeownership to low and moderate income Californians including young working families and the elderly.

Awards made today are funded by Proposition 46, the housing bond approved by the voters in November 2002.

Dunn stated, "Business, Transportation and Housing Agency Secretary Sunne Wright McPeak and I are passionate in providing solutions for California families to realize the dream of homeownership." Today's awards will help 1,315 families achieve this dream."

Awards were made through the following HCD programs:

- \$7.5 million through the CalHome Building Equity and Growth in Neighborhoods Program (BEGIN), which makes grants to cities and counties that have reduced regulatory barriers to the construction of new, affordable ownership housing. These barriers can include such constraints as minimum lot or floor area sizes that make housing more expensive. The grants are used by cities and counties to make down payment assistance loans to low- and moderate-income first-time buyers of homes in BEGIN projects.
- \$31.7 million for the CalHome Program which awards funds to local governments and non-profit organizations to promote homeownership opportunities for first-time homebuyers through acquisition of new or resale homes. CalHome funds also help existing lower income homeowners remain in their homes through the rehabilitation of their existing home.

Los Angeles Region

In total, the Los Angeles Region was awarded \$15.1 million in housing bond funds in 9 different cities in the greater Los Angeles Region, including \$5.2 million within the City of Los Angeles. This includes \$4.1 million to create additional homeownership opportunities through the CalHome BEGIN Program and \$11 million through the CalHome Program which provides grants to local programs to assist low income families to become or remain homeowners. 528 families are being served in the Los Angeles Region. (For details, see Editor's Note.)

Central Valley

The Central Valley applicants received over \$7.8 million in housing bond funds for housing in 13 communities, including: \$.4 million for the BEGIN Program and \$7.4 for the CalHome Program which provides grants to local programs to assist low income families to become or remain homeowners. 195 families are being served in the Central Valley. (For details, see Editor's Note.)

Greater Sacramento/Stockton Area

The Greater Sacramento/Stockton Area applicants were awarded \$7.6 million in housing bond funds for homeownership opportunities in five different communities in the region, including \$2 million to create additional homeownership opportunities through the CalHome BEGIN Program and \$5.6 million through the CalHome Program which provides grants to local programs to assist low income families to become or remain homeowners. 248 families are being served in the Greater Sacramento/Stockton Area. (For details, see Editor's Note.)

San Francisco/Bay Area

The San Francisco/Bay Area Region applicants were awarded \$7.2 million in housing bond funds for the dream of homeownership or to remain homeowners in 8 different communities in the region, which includes \$1 million for the BEGIN Program and \$6.2 for the CalHome Program which provides grants to local programs to assist low income families to become or remain homeowners. 289 families are being served in the San Francisco/Bay Area. (For details, see Editor's Note.)

Inland Empire Region

Inland Empire Region applicants were awarded \$3.2 million in housing bond funds for five communities in the region through the CalHome Program which provides grants to local programs to assist low income families to become or remain homeowners. 152 families are being served in the Inland Empire Region. (For details, see Editor's Note.)

San Diego Region

City and County of San Diego applicants received \$2.5 million in housing bond funds for the CalHome Program which provides grants to local programs to assist low income families to become or remain homeowners. 51 families are being served in the San Diego Region. (For details, see Editor's Note.)

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Editor's Note:

For an electronic copy of this release, go to:

http://www.hcd.ca.gov/news/release/Press_Release.pdf

For a listing of total awards by Media Market, go to:

http://www.hcd.ca.gov/news/release/BEGIN_CalHome_Media_Markets.pdf

For a listing of total awards by Program, go to:

http://www.hcd.ca.gov/news/release/California_BEGIN_CalHome_Total_Awards.pdf

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